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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT		25X1
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Information

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The pharmaceutical industry in Poland is controlled by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Industry. The department in the Ministry of Health directly responsible for the pharmaceutical industry is headed by Kellner (fmu), a chemist and a trustworthy Communist, formerly very wealthy.
2. All the large pharmaceutical factories in Poland, including SPIS, Klave, Motor, Gasecki and Karpinski in Warsaw and Wander in Cracow, were nationalized in the first post-war years. Their names have been replaced by numbers, i.e. Factory No. 1, Factory No. 10, etc. The gradual nationalization of smaller factories began in 1946, and by 1950 all the pharmaceutical plants were in government hands.
3. The nationalization of pharmacies was carried out on 8 January 1951. The nationalization operation was called "Operation A" and was carried out in the utmost secrecy. Until 1951 there was a Union of Pharmacists (Izby Aptekarskie) in every voivodship in Poland, the members of which were the pharmacy owners in the voivodship. The unions were controlled by the Central Union of Pharmacists (Naczelna Izba Aptekarska). Preparations for the liquidation of the unions began in October 1950. Upon nationalization of the pharmacies, the unions were replaced by new government organizations, i.e. a center of public pharmacies in every voivodship (CAS; Centrala Aptek Spolecznych). The Central Union of Pharmacists was replaced by a central administration (Naczelna Dyrekcja Centrali Aptek Spolecznych), which was established in Warsaw and controls all the voivodship centers. All the pharmacies in Poland are responsible to these new organizations.
4. Until the nationalization of pharmacies there were government sanitary organizations (Panstwowe Wojewodzkie Hurtownie Apteczne) in every voivodship which were responsible for the supply of medicines to the pharmacies. They received the drugs from the Central Base (Baza Naczelna) in Warsaw. They have now been replaced by Voivodship Pharmaceutical Bases (Wojewodzkie Bazy Apteczne) and are now responsible to the voivodship center of pharmacies (Centrala Aptek Spolecznych) and not to the central base in Warsaw.

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- 2 -

5. The main pharmaceutical storehouses in Poland are located at Lodz. The storehouses of the Zielona Gora voivodship are located at 20 Sikorskiego Street, and the voivodship center of pharmacies is located at 11 Sikorskiego Street in Zielona Gora.
6. The following drugs were available in Poland in 1952: Streptomycin [redacted] aureomycin [redacted] yellow penicillin produced by the former SPIS factory in small quantities, and also imported from the USSR. crystal penicillin imported from Western countries; unctuous penicillin [redacted] crystal and unctuous penicillin produced by the Chimoin factory in Budapest, imported in small quantities from Hungary. 25X1
7. Streptomycin and aureomycin are not available in pharmacies at all, and are allocated to hospitals and other health institutions by the voivodship health organizations only for urgent cases. Crystal penicillin is rarely available in pharmacies.
8. Other antibiotics are not available on the market. Chloromycetin, terramycin and cortisone, imported from abroad, are at the exclusive disposal of the Government Hospital (Rzadowa Lecznica) in Warsaw, which is open only to senior officials, such as a deputy minister and higher.
9. Sulpha drugs are available in pharmacies, but at times shortages are felt. The drugs are imported from abroad and also manufactured in Poland from either raw or imported semi-finished products. Basic sulfanimites are produced in Poland in sufficient quantities.
10. PAS and rimofon are manufactured in sufficient quantities in Poland, the latter being produced at the former Wander factory in Cracow.
11. Organic compounds are imported from Hungary, and drugs such as Bellerbol from Czechoslovakia.
12. The Polish pharmaceutical industry is expanding; the two former German factories at Jelenia Gora are being enlarged. The pharmaceutical factory at Legnica has also been expanded and produces mainly Azo compounds.

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